



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis and Administration

July 28, 2003

Fritz R. Kahn, Esq.
1920 N Street, NW
8th Floor
Washington, DC 20036-1601

Re: STB Finance Docket 34382, Nevada Central Railroad - Construction and
Operation - In Clark, Elko, Eureka, Lander, Nye and White Pine Counties,
Nevada

Dear Mr. Kahn:

We are in receipt of your July 17, 2003 letter notifying the Surface Transportation Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) of the Nevada Central Railroad's intent to file an application in six months to construct and operate three rail line segments in Nevada. However, before SEA can begin drafting a *Federal Register* Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), or Draft Scope of Study for the EIS, we require the following additional information for each of the three proposed rail line segments:

- Map(s) of the proposed route;
- Rail line mileage;
- Principal commodities to be moved;
- Primary shippers to be served; and
- Approximate number and frequency of trains.

Upon receipt of this additional information, we will evaluate the information and determine if it is sufficient for SEA to begin drafting the Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS and Scope of Study for the EIS.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 202-565-1545, or Dave Navecky of my staff at 202-565-1593.

Sincerely,

Victoria Rutson
Chief

Section of Environmental Analysis